

What do our candidates support?

Thirty-six members or supporters of the St. Luke's Respect Life Committee signed the following letter, which was e-mailed or mailed to all candidates on the ballots for federal and state offices representing Barrington:

Dear _____,

We are all members or supporters of the Respect Life committee at St. Luke's Church in Barrington. We respectfully ask you to clarify where you stand on three very important issues. We ask that you respond "yes" or "no" to the following three questions.

1. Do you support laws that define marriage only as the union of one man and one woman?
2. Do you support the concept that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every stage?
3. Do you support the Women's Right to Know Bill? (It would establish informed consent procedures and a 24 hour waiting period for women seeking abortions.)

We would very much appreciate your response to this e-mail. We would like to share your response, along with the responses of other candidates, with our parish community. We will share responses received by October 28th. (If we do not hear from you, we will share that we received no response.)

Thank you for your time,

List of 36 names

On the following pages are the exact, unedited responses of the candidates.

**“What we encourage Catholics to do is to take their faith
with them into the voting booth.”**

*Bishop Thomas J. Tobin
Rhode Island Catholic
October 21, 2010*

Candidates for Governor

Kenneth J. Block

Hello,

Thank you for your questions. I am responding on behalf of Ken Block.

- 1) Ken Block supports gay marriage and believes it is an issue of civil rights
- 2) Ken Block would classify himself as pro-choice and believes abortions should be legal, safe, and rare
- 3) Ken Block does not support the Women's Right to Know Bill

If you differ in opinion on these social issues, it is our hope that you can find common ground with Ken Block in his plans for putting people back to work, and educating our children. You can find more information on his website at www.KenBlockforGovernor.com.

Thank you,

--Amanda Alvarez

John F. Robitaille

Do you support laws that define marriage only as the union of one man and one woman? **YES**

Do you support the concept that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every stage? **YES**

Do you support the Women's Right to Know Bill? (It would establish informed consent procedures and a 24 hour waiting period for women seeking abortions.)

John Robitaille has been endorsed by RI Right to life and is Pro Life. This question assumes one is Pro Choice. John is against abortion.

Michael Napolitano

Press Secretary/John Robitaille for Governor

Lincoln D. Chafee

Thank you for your email. Senator Chafee has always been, and continues to be, pro-choice and pro gay marriage. I am not sure where he stands on the Women's Right to Know Bill, but I can certainly check for you.

I realize that his views may conflict with your committee's, but we hope for your support and are happy to answer any additional questions.

Thanks,

Cara

St. Luke's Respect Life Committee – Results of Candidate Information Request

Todd Giroux

Giroux Response:

Do you support laws that define marriage only as the union of one man and one woman? Marriage Equality Civil Right.

Do you support the concept that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every stage? Yes.

Do you support the Women's Right to Know Bill? (It would establish informed consent procedures and a 24 hour waiting period for women seeking abortions.) Yes.

Frank T. Caprio, Joseph M. Lusi and Ronald Algeri: no responses

Candidates for Attorney General

Erik B. Wallin

Hi-

Here are my answers:

Do you support laws that define marriage only as the union of one man and one woman? YES

Do you support the concept that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every stage? YES, ABSOLUTELY!!!!

Do you support the Women's Right to Know Bill? (It would establish informed consent procedures and a 24 hour waiting period for women seeking abortions.). YES

Thanks!

Erik

Robert E. Rainville

Thank you for your inquiry. I was born and raised in a Catholic family. I am supported by my current priests and Church which is Saint Gregory the Great in Warwick, RI. I would sincerely appreciate your support so that we can finally have an Attorney General you can trust to protect you and all Rhode Islanders and not just their Political friends. I am the only real Independent Attorney in this race and will work hard every day to earn your trust and respect. While I appreciate your questions, as Attorney General my job is to protect all Rhode Islanders equally and not discriminate against any resident based upon race, religion, sexual orientation, etc. I must uphold and enforce the law as enacted. I will make sure politics does not come into play when decisions are made in the office. That's the way it needs to be. My personal views are that I respect life and believe in the faith I was brought up in. I was taught to always respect people and do what is right. I will do that as your AG.

Christopher H. Little, Peter F. Kilmartin and Keven A. McKenna: no response

Candidates for Representative in General Assembly, District 66

Joy Hearn

Dear Father Hawkins-

Thank you for the informational email. As you can appreciate this issue is very complex and I don't feel I would do the questions justice with short yes or no answers. That said, I would be happy to meet with the entire group for a discussion on the issue. Again, I appreciate the contact and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Joy Hearn

Representative

Joel Hellmann

I have received over 100 mailers on various topics I have not answered any of them. They are all outside groups, pushing their agendas. But I know some of the people listed below and if I am running for office they deserve to know what I am thinking. I have been advised not to answer these kind of questions but knowing that the answers will probably lose me many votes, I believe that you deserve answers even if you do not like the answer.

Question one is tricky for me. I would not support any law that would deny any civil rights for anyone. While I believe that marriage should be between a man and a woman, I find that laws like these across the country have been using language to deny civil rights to homosexuals. Their partners should be entitled to every right that heterosexuals are entitled to. Including death benefits, health benefits, the right to adopt and claim the bodies after death of loved ones. So without specific language of a law I could not say that I support the question as written. Civil rights trump the issue of what is called a marriage.

Question two is no. Abortion is the wrong choice, but it is a choice. Passing a law will not stop abortions. People will either go to another state or go underground. I don't believe any tax money should be used to fund abortions. Abortion is not an entitlement. I would not support any tax money to pay for abortions.

Question three. I believe that a 24 hour waiting period is very appropriate. We should all think before we act certainly on an issue such as this

Respectfully

Joel Hellmann.

Margaret E. Kane: no response

Candidates for Representative in General Assembly, District 67

Jan Malik

Do you support laws that define marriage only as the union of one man and one woman? YES

Do you support the concept that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every stage? YES

Do you support the Women's Right to Know Bill? YES

Joseph A. DePasquale: no response

Candidates for Senator in General Assembly, District 32

David E. Bates

While these questions come up every year, these bills have never made the Senate Floor for a vote.

1)in general yes

2)no

3)yes

Sen Dave Bates

Jim Hasenfus: no response

Candidates for Representative in Congress, District 1

(Only questions 1 and 2 were asked of these candidates, since question 3 is a bill relevant to the Rhode Island General Assembly.)

Kenneth A. Capalbo

YES and YES

David N. Cicilline, John J. Loughlin, II and Gregory Raposa: no response

Candidates for Lieutenant Governor

Elizabeth H. Roberts, Robert P. Venturini and Robert J. Healey, Jr.: no response

Candidates for Secretary of State

A. Ralph Mollis and Catherine Terry Taylor: no response

Candidates for General Treasurer

Gina M. Raimondo and Kernan F. King: no response